

Great Swamp
National Wildlife Refuge
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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Great Swamp

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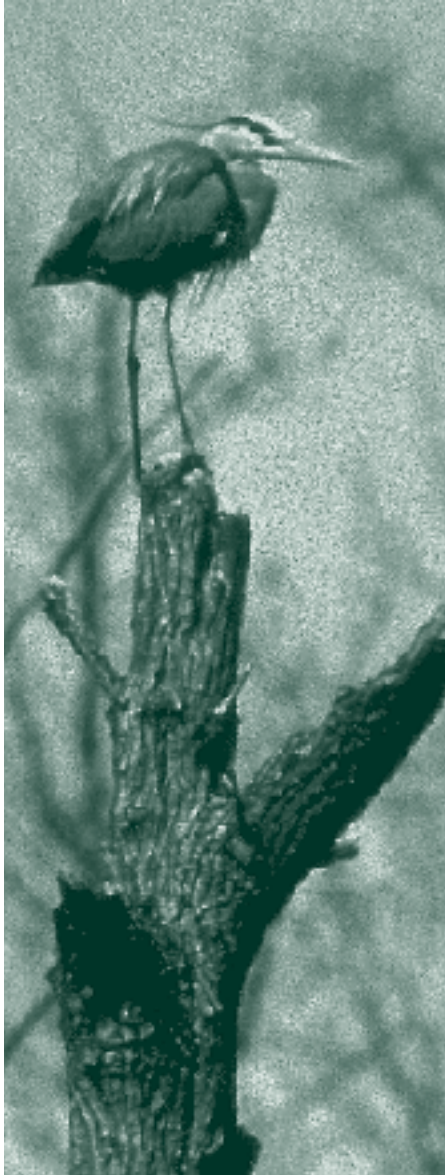
Birds



Wood duck
James Prince/USFWS



This goose, designed by J.N. “Ding” Darling, has become the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.



James Prince/USFWS

Great blue heron

Introduction

The Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge contains approximately 7,500 acres of mixed hardwood swamp, marsh, meandering streams, ponds, upland forest, brush and grassland. This diverse habitat attracts a wide variety of birds.

This brochure lists 244 species of birds that one may possibly encounter at Great Swamp. The following individuals have reviewed the document for accuracy: William Boyle, Steve Byland, Richard Kane, Glenn and Eileen Mahler, Michael Newlon and David Womer. This list is in accordance with the Seventh American Ornithologist’s Union Checklist, as amended.

Most birds are migratory, therefore their seasonal occurrence is coded as follows:

Season

Sp	Spring	March – May
S	Summer	June – August
F	Fall	September – November
W	Winter	December – February

Relative Abundance

a	abundant	a species which is very numerous
c	common	likely to be seen or heard in suitable habitat
u	uncommon	present, but not certain to be seen
o	occasional	seen only a few times during the season
r	rare	may be present, but not every year

Habitat Types (H)

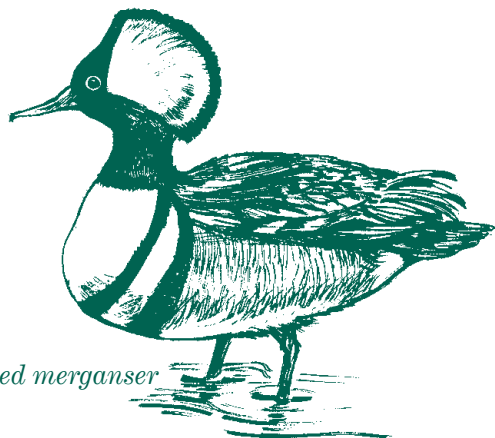
f	Forest, woodlands, thickets
w	Wetlands (includes swamp, marshes, ponds and streams)
m	Meadows, fields

- Birds known to nest on or near the refuge.
Italics indicate federally threatened/endangered species.

(E) - Probably exotic or escaped species

	Sp	S	F	W	H
Loons					
___ Common Loon _____	u		r		w
Grebes					
___ Pied-billed Grebe _____	u	r	o	r	w
___ Horned Grebe _____			r		w
Cormorants					
___ Double-crested Cormorant _	o		o		w

	Sp	S	F	W	H
Bitterns, Herons and Egrets					
___ • American Bittern _____	u	u	u	r	w
___ • Least Bittern _____	u	u	u		w
___ • Great Blue Heron _____	c	c	c	u	w
___ Great Egret _____	o	o	o	r	w/m
___ Snowy Egret _____	r	r	r		w/m
___ Little Blue Heron _____	o	o	o		w
___ Cattle Egret _____	r	r	r		w/m
___ • Green Heron _____	c	c	c		w
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron _____	o	r	o		w
___ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron _____	r	r			w
Ibises					
___ Glossy Ibis _____	r	r	r		w/m
New World Vultures					
___ Black Vulture _____	u	u	u	u	f/m/w
___ Turkey Vulture _____	c	c	c	c	f/m/w
Swans, Geese and Ducks					
___ Snow Goose _____	r		o	o	w/m
___ • Canada Goose _____	a	a	a	a	w/m
___ • Mute Swan (E) _____	o	o	o	r	w/m
___ • Wood Duck _____	a	a	a	u	w/f
___ Gadwall _____	u	r	u	o	w
___ American Wigeon _____	u	r	c	o	w/m
___ • American Black Duck _____	c	u	c	u	w



Hooded merganser

	Sp	S	F	W	H
___ • Mallard _____	a	a	a	a	w/m
___ • Blue-winged Teal _____	u	u	u		w/m
___ Northern Shoveler _____	o	r	o	r	w
___ Northern Pintail _____	u	r	c	u	w
___ • Green-winged Teal _____	c	r	c	u	w/m
___ Canvasback _____	r		r	r	w
___ Ring-necked Duck _____	c			o	w
___ Bufflehead _____	r		r	r	w
___ Common Goldeneye _____			r	r	w
___ • Hooded Merganser _____	u	u	u	o	w
___ Common Merganser _____	r			r	w
___ Red-breasted Merganser _____				r	w
___ Ruddy Duck _____			r	r	w
Osprey, Kites, Hawks and Eagles					
___ Osprey _____	u		u		w/f
___ Bald Eagle _____	o	o	o	o	w/f/m
___ Northern Harrier _____	c	r	c	c	w/m
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk _____	u		c	u	f/m
___ • Cooper's Hawk _____	u	u	u	u	f/m
___ Northern Goshawk _____			r	r	f/m
___ • Red-shouldered Hawk _____	u	u	u	o	f/m
___ • Broad-winged Hawk _____	u	o	u		f/m
___ • Red-tailed Hawk _____	c	u	c	c	f/m/w
___ Rough-legged Hawk _____	r		r	o	m/w/f
___ Golden Eagle _____			r	r	m/w/f
Falcons and Caracaras					
___ • American Kestrel _____	c	u	c	u	m/f
___ Merlin _____	o		o	r	m/f
___ Peregrine Falcon _____			r		w/m/f
Gallinaceous Birds					
___ • Wild Turkey _____	c	c	c	c	m/f
Rails					
___ • King Rail _____	o	o	o		w
___ • Virginia Rail _____	c	c	c	r	w
___ • Sora _____	u	u	u	r	w
___ • Common Moorhen _____	u	c	c		w
___ American Coot _____	u		u	u	w

	Sp	S	F	W	H
Plovers					
___ Semipalmated Plover ___	o				w
___ • Killdeer ___	c	c	c	o	m/w

Sandpipers and Phalaropes

___ Greater Yellowlegs ___	u	u	u		w/m
___ Lesser Yellowlegs ___	u	o	u		w/m
___ Solitary Sandpiper ___	c	u	u		w/m
___ • Spotted Sandpiper ___	c	u	u		w
___ Upland Sandpiper ___	r				m
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper ___	o	o	o		w/m
___ Least Sandpiper ___	c	u	o		w/m
___ Pectoral Sandpiper ___	u	u	u		w/m
___ Dunlin ___	r				w
___ Short-billed Dowitcher ___	r	r			w
___ • Common Snipe ___	a	r	c	o	w/m
___ • American Woodcock ___	a	c	a	o	f/m/w

Skuas, Jaegers, Gulls and Terns

___ Bonaparte's Gull ___				r	w
___ Ring-billed Gull ___	u		u	c	w/m
___ Herring Gull ___	o	o	o	u	w/m
___ Great Black-backed Gull ___	o			u	w/m

Pigeons and Doves

___ • Rock Dove ___	u	u	u	u	m
___ • Mourning Dove ___	a	a	a	a	m/f

Cuckoos and Anis

___ • Black-billed Cuckoo ___	u	u	o		f
___ • Yellow-billed Cuckoo ___	u	u	o		f

Barn Owls

___ Barn Owl ___	o	o	o	o	m/f
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Typical Owls

___ • Eastern Screech-Owl ___	u	u	u	u	f
___ • Great Horned Owl ___	c	c	c	c	f
___ • Barred Owl ___	u	u	u	u	f
___ Long-eared Owl ___	o		o	o	f
___ Short-eared Owl ___	r			r	m/w
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl ___	r		r	r	f

Nightjars

___ Common Nighthawk ___	u	u	c		f/m
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Swifts

___ • Chimney Swift ___	c	c	c		m
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Hummingbirds

___ • Ruby-throated Hummingbird ___	u	o	u		m/f
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Kingfishers

___ • Belted Kingfisher ___	c	c	c	u	w
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Woodpeckers

___ • Red-headed Woodpecker ___	o	o	o	u	f
___ • Red-bellied Woodpecker ___	c	c	c	c	f
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker ___	u		u	r	f
___ • Downy Woodpecker ___	c	c	c	c	f
___ • Hairy Woodpecker ___	u	u	u	u	f
___ • Northern Flicker ___	c	c	c	u	f
___ • Pileated Woodpecker ___	o	o	o	o	f



Red-headed woodpecker



Great horned owl

Tyrant Flycatchers

	Sp	S	F	W	H
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher ___	o	r	o		f
___ • Eastern Wood-Pewee ___	c	c	c		f
___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher ___	o	r	o		f/w
___ • Acadian Flycatcher ___	o	o			f
___ • Alder Flycatcher ___	o	o			f
___ • Willow Flycatcher ___	c	c	c		m/f
___ • Least Flycatcher ___	u	o	o		f
___ • Eastern Phoebe ___	c	c	c	r	m/f
___ • Great Crested Flycatcher ___	c	c	c		f
___ • Eastern Kingbird ___	c	c	c		m/f

Shrikes

___ Northern Shrike ___	r		r	r	m/f
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Vireos

___ • White-eyed Vireo ___	u	u	u		f
___ • Yellow-throated Vireo ___	u	u	u		f
___ Blue-headed Vireo ___	c		u		f
___ • Warbling Vireo ___	c	u	r		f
___ Philadelphia Vireo ___			o		f
___ • Red-eyed Vireo ___	c	c	c		f

Crows, Jays and Magpies

___ • Blue Jay ___	a	a	a	a	f
___ • American Crow ___	a	a	a	a	f
___ • Fish Crow ___	u	o	u	o	f/m

Larks

___ Horned Lark ___		r	r	r	m
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Swallows

___ • Purple Martin ___	u	u			m/w
___ • Tree Swallow ___	a	a	a	r	m/w
___ • Northern Rough-winged Swallow ___	u	c	u		m/w
___ Bank Swallow ___	u	u	u		m/w
___ Cliff Swallow ___	u				m/w
___ • Barn Swallow ___	c	c	c		m/w

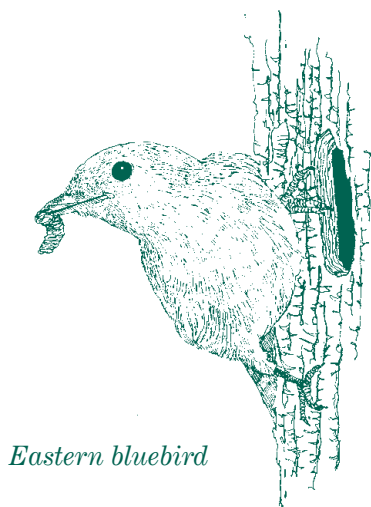
Titmice and Chickadees

___ • Black-capped Chickadee ___	a	a	a	a	f
___ • Tufted Titmouse ___	a	a	a	a	f



Black-capped chickadee

	Sp	S	F	W	H
Nuthatches					
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch ___	o	o	u	o	f
___ • White-breasted Nuthatch ___	c	c	c	c	f
Creepers					
___ • Brown Creeper _____	u	u	u	u	f
Wrens					
___ • Carolina Wren _____	c	c	c	u	f
___ • House Wren _____	c	a	c		f
___ Winter Wren _____	u		u	u	f
___ • Marsh Wren _____	c	c	c	r	w
Kinglets					
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet ___	c		c	u	f
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet _____	c		c	o	f
Old World Warblers					
___ • Blue-gray Gnatcatcher _____	c	c	u		f



Eastern bluebird

	Sp	S	F	W	H
Thrushes					
___ • Eastern Bluebird _____	c	c	c	c	f/m
___ • Veery _____	c	c	c		f
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush _____	u		o		f
___ Bicknell's Thrush _____	u		o		f
___ Swainson's Thrush _____	u		u		f
___ Hermit Thrush _____	c		c	o	f
___ • Wood Thrush _____	c	c	c		f
___ • American Robin _____	a	a	a	u	f/m
Mimic Thrushes					
___ • Gray Catbird _____	a	a	a	r	f
___ • Northern Mockingbird _____	c	c	c	c	f/m
___ • Brown Thrasher _____	c	c	c	r	f
Starlings					
___ • European Starling (E) _____	a	a	a	a	f/m/w
Wagtails and Pipits					
___ American Pipit _____	u		u		m/w
Waxwings					
___ • Cedar Waxwing _____	c	u	c	u	f
Wood Warblers					
___ • Blue-winged Warbler _____	c	c	c		f
___ Golden-winged Warbler _____	o				f
___ Tennessee Warbler _____	u	o	u		f
___ Nashville Warbler _____	u		u		f
___ Northern Parula _____	c	o	c		f
___ • Yellow Warbler _____	a	a	u		f/w
___ • Chestnut-sided Warbler _____	c	o	c		f
___ Magnolia Warbler _____	c	o	c		f
___ Cape May Warbler _____	u	o	u		f
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler _____	c	o	c		f
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler _____	a		c	u	f
___ Black-throated Green Warbler _____	c	o	c		f
___ Blackburnian Warbler _____	u	o	u		f
___ Yellow-throated Warbler _____	r				f
___ Pine Warbler _____	u		o		f
___ Prairie Warbler _____	o				f
___ Palm Warbler _____	c		u		f
___ Bay-breasted Warbler _____	u	o	u		f
___ Blackpoll Warbler _____	c	o	c		f

	Sp	S	F	W	H
___ Cerulean Warbler _____	o	o			f
___ • Black-and-white Warbler _____	c	c	c		f
___ • American Redstart _____	c	c	c		f
___ • Prothonotary Warbler _____	o	r	r		f/w
___ Worm-eating Warbler _____	u	o			f
___ • Ovenbird _____	c	c	c		f
___ • Northern Waterthrush _____	c	u	u		f/w
___ • Louisiana Waterthrush _____	u	o	o		f/w
___ Kentucky Warbler _____	o	r			f
___ Connecticut Warbler _____			o		f/w
___ Mourning Warbler _____	u	o	o		f/w
___ • Common Yellowthroat _____	a	a	a	r	f/w
___ Hooded Warbler _____	o		o		f
___ Wilson's Warbler _____	u		u		f
___ Canada Warbler _____	c	r	c		f
___ • Yellow-breasted Chat _____	o	o	o		f/m

Tanagers

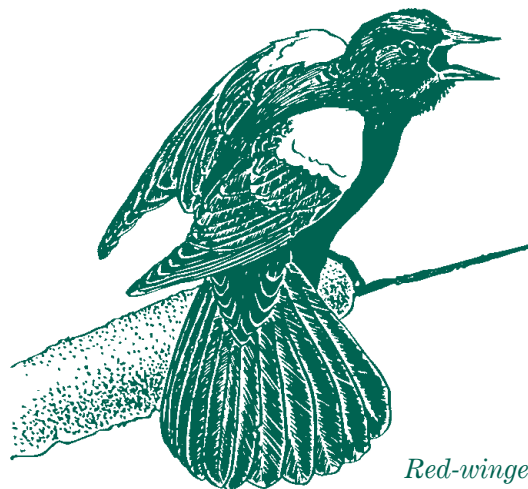
___ • Scarlet Tanager _____	c	c	c		f
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Sparrows and Towhees

___ • Eastern Towhee _____	a	a	a	r	f
___ American Tree Sparrow _____	c		c	c	f/m
___ • Chipping Sparrow _____	c	c	c	r	f/m
___ • Field Sparrow _____	c	c	c	u	m/f
___ Vesper Sparrow _____	o	r	o	r	m/f
___ Savannah Sparrow _____	u		u	r	m/f
___ Grasshopper Sparrow _____	r		r		m
___ Fox Sparrow _____	u		u	o	f
___ • Song Sparrow _____	a	a	a	c	f/m
___ Lincoln's Sparrow _____	o		u		m/w
___ • Swamp Sparrow _____	a	a	a	u	w/m
___ White-throated Sparrow _____	c		c	c	f
___ White-crowned Sparrow _____	o		o		f
___ Dark-eyed Junco _____	c		c	c	f
___ Snow Bunting _____			r	r	m

Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Allies

___ • Northern Cardinal _____	c	c	c	c	f
___ • Rose-breasted Grosbeak _____	c	c	c		f
___ • Indigo Bunting _____	u	o	u		f/m



Red-winged blackbird

Blackbirds and Orioles

___ • Bobolink _____	u	u	u		m
___ • Red-winged Blackbird _____	a	a	a	u	f/m/w
___ • Eastern Meadowlark _____	u	u	u	o	m
___ Rusty Blackbird _____	c		c	u	f/w
___ • Common Grackle _____	a	c	a	o	f/m
___ • Brown-headed Cowbird _____	c	c	c	o	f/m
___ • Orchard Oriole _____	u	u			m/f
___ • Baltimore Oriole _____	c	c	c		f

Finches

___ Purple Finch _____	u		u	u	f
___ • House Finch _____	c	c	c	c	f
___ Red Crossbill _____			r	r	f
___ White-winged Crossbill _____			r	r	f
___ Common Redpoll _____	r		r	r	f
___ Pine Siskin _____	o		o	o	f
___ • American Goldfinch _____	a	a	c	c	f
___ Evening Grosbeak _____	o		o	r	f

Old World Sparrows

___ • House Sparrow (E) _____	c	c	c	c	f
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